

# Summary of presentations

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May

**Presentation by Dr Elodie Vajda, Entomologist at University of California San Francisco Malaria Elimination Initiative: *The new UCSF Entomological Surveillance Planning Tool (ESPT)*.**

Dr Vajda gave an overview of what many consider to be a State-of-the-Art Vector Surveillance set of guidelines developed by the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Malaria Elimination Initiative (MEI) team, through consultation with National Malaria Control program and international malaria control NGOs and agencies across the world. The ESPT aligns with and aims to distill WHO guidance into an operational decision-support tool for national malaria programs to support cost effective, locally tailored, and evidence-based vector control. The ESPT also incorporates guidance from the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) and other technical partners and resources. The updated Malaria Eradication Research Agenda (maERA) highlights the need for minimal essential entomological data that are collectable and actionable for national malaria programs. The ESPT responds to this call by identifying and defining minimum essential indicators and advocates for program ownership of entomological surveillance activities and vector control decision-making. The ESPT helps to identify gaps in protection, or limitations with current prevention measures, by collecting and integrating priority entomological data with other data, such as climatic, epidemiological, and human behavioral data. This data in turn can support decisions on targeting and tailoring vector control to address the human-vector contact point (i.e., where transmission occurs). The tool also supports programs to reorient routine entomological surveillance activities, foci and outbreak investigations, and receptivity monitoring in areas preventing malaria reestablishment based on priority programmatic questions.

Following this excellent overview by Dr Vajda, the conference participants broke away into four discussion groups for intensive groupwork; three groups (South Asia, moderated by Leo Braack, Greater Mekong Sub-region, moderated by Elodie Vajda, Indonesia & Melanesia, moderated by Tanya Russell) to undertake a Vector Surveillance Training Needs Assessment, while a fourth group moderated by Prof Tom Burkot did an analysis of availability of training skills within people in Asia Pacific, as well as training institutions that could potentially host advanced vector surveillance courses. After the working session, groups re-convened again in Plenary for presentation of findings, as well as Questions and Answers.